

CSAP Vocabulary Words

- alliteration – the repeating of the beginning consonant sounds. An example would be: Crispy, crumbly, corn cakes.
- analyze -- to examine information in order to arrive at a general conclusion or more meaningful understanding.
- cause and effect -- to state something that happened (the cause) and give specific results (the effect) from what happened.
- compare and contrast -- showing the similarities (to compare) and differences (the contrast) between two or more subjects.
- conclude -- to arrive at a final and meaningful understanding.
- define -- to exactly describe or state the meaning of a word, term or expression.
- describe -- to tell, in vivid detail and creating a clear word picture of the subject, how something or someone looks, feels, sounds, smells, etc. in story form.
- evaluate -- to give your opinion of the value of a subject. You MUST include BOTH the advantages (the good points) and the disadvantages (the bad points).
- explain -- Using reasons, causes or step-by-step details, to tell how something works or happens.
- figure of speech -- a device used by authors to create special meaning for their readers: examples include metaphors, personifications, etc.
- foreshadowing -- when the writer hints or gives clues about what is to come in a story.
- hyperbole -- a gross overstatement or exaggeration used for emphasis. An example would be: There are a million people waiting to get through this lunch line.
- hypothesize – to predict from the facts presented. A synonym for predict.
- identify -- to answer who, what, when, where, why and/or how (any or all of them) in an organized paragraph or essay.
- infer – to gather meaning from the clues and evidence in the text to draw conclusions.

CSAP Vocabulary Words (Continued)

- irony -- using a word or phrase to mean the exact opposite of its normal meaning. An example would be: After bumping his shin on a table leg and falling to the floor in pain, Liz stated to the class, "I bet THAT felt good."
- list or enumerate -- to include a specific number of details, reasons or causes; these are presented in a "list" form. You will number the parts of your answer in some way (i.e. first, second, third, etc.).
- metaphor -- compares two different things without using either the word "like" or the word "as". An example would be: The substitute teacher was a real ringmaster.
- onomatopoeia -- the use of a word whose sound makes you think of its meaning. An example would be: buzz (a bee or insect), zip (a zipper), meow (a cat) or bow wow (a dog).
- paraphrase -- to restate in your own words.
- personification -- to give an idea, object or animal the characteristics or qualities of a human being. An example would be: The rock stubbornly refused to cling to the cliff.
- persuade -- to attempt to convince others that your thoughts or beliefs about an issue are correct; to express an opinion in a way that is favorable to your viewpoint.
- predict -- to explain what you think will happen based on the information presented. A synonym for predict would be hypothesize.
- problem and solution -- explain what needs to be solved (the problem) and give specific details on how to solve it (the solution).
- respond -- to give your reaction or feelings to information presented.
- simile -- compares two different things MUST use the words "like" or "as". An example would be: Sarah's cheeks were as red as roses.
- state -- to represent your ideas about a subject using sentences which are brief and to the point.
- summarize -- to present the main points in a clear and simple form with a few supporting details, illustrations or examples.
- theme -- the subject or message being written about or discussed.